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WITH THE COLORS

ALBERT CURRY WRITES

The following letter is from Albert Curry, son of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Curry, in active service in France:

Dear Folks: I am still on the same old job of herding an old army Dodge around. Today I had more of it than anyone would care for. I started on a short trip this afternoon and from two o'clock to four I had five punctures and several revival meetings. The punctures were all caused by hobnails which are as thick as German prisoners. The roads are all full of them. The prisoners are coming in so fast that it looks like the whole German army had surrendered and were coming over to visit us while and have a square meal. Most of them look almost as intelligent as any south African although by their actions they do not show it. The more that I see of them the more possible I think that the average monkey can be easily civilized.

The offensive that the Americans are now starting looks like they may reach Germany proper and if that happens, you may as well buy a fatted calf for the prof's return. Since I left the old company seven weeks ago I have not received any mail from any one. I passed the hospital the other day and they had sent my mail to me. They did it in the true military manner and sent it to the wrong address. Some day I shall receive all of it and have several continued stories of intense interest to spend the lonely night hours. The



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SOMETHING NEW IN WARFARE

Party of Highlanders Repelled German Attack, but at Terrible Cost; They Lost Their "Parritch."

A wounded officer describes the novel way in which a small party of surprised Highlanders met an unexpected enemy attack.

"The Germans got further into the trenches," he writes. "So far, indeed, that they surprised a party of Highlanders in the peaceful occupation of porridge making for a section due for night duty. The porridge makers had no time to seize weapons. Instead they seized their precious pot of porridge and flung it in the face of the advancing foe. There were yells of rage as the scalding porridge fell among the soldiers of the Kaiser. One of the funniest sights of the whole war, I am told, was to see a German officer trying to look dignified before his men in a uniform covered with porridge. The method of repelling the attack was novel, but effective. It was more deadly than liquid fire, I fancy, for it put an end to the attack in that quarter."

"When we relieved the Highland porridge makers we found them in a terrible funk, they didn't mind facing the worst attack the enemy could make, but they were quaking at the prospect of explaining to hungry comrades what had happened to the porridge. I tried to console the man with whom this brainy idea originated by telling him he ought to have the V. C. He would have none of my consolation. 'That may be,' he answered, 'but what about Wee Jock — a parritch? He'll hammer us — out o' me when he comes back and finds it's us' wasted on they German devils!'"

PICTURE FROM BEHIND THE GERMAN LINES



This picture, just received from the land of the Huns, by way of a neutral nation, shows a development that has hitherto not been told in accounts of German life—the digging of trenches about the suburbs of Berlin, kaiserdom's capital, and the arming and training of civilians against the day of the world's reckoning. Officers of the German reserves train these civilians. Notice the elderly professional men in the foreground, apparently bankers or retired physicians.

NO COUNTRY FOR POOR MAN

Brazilians Are Compelled to Pay Extraordinarily High Prices for All the Necessaries of Life.

Rio de Janeiro, the most wonderfully reconstructed city in the world, was also, until recently, one of the most pleasure-loving. Today the president is endeavoring to instill war economy into the nation before it feels the brunt of war—a by no means easy task. Economy is not easily preached in a country where state lotteries are of daily, and public holidays of all too frequent, occurrence. The most popular of the latter is the carnival, which occupies the four days preceding Ash Wednesday.

Brazilians who complain of the high cost of living will probably wish to see war economy continued in times of peace. It costs about \$7.20 a day to live at all comfortably in Rio. Some manufactured articles are now difficult to obtain, and the cost of everything "owing to the war" and the colossal protective tariffs, is such as to make unaccustomed English folks feel faint with terror. A ready-made drill jacket, though cheaper in back streets, will be commonly priced at \$10.50 in shops on the Avenida Rio Branco. A tailor-made man's suit will cost about \$50.—From the United States Naval Institute Proceedings.

Almost Lost Precious Card.
One of those "absentee registrants" signed up at the city postoffice one day last week, and received his registration card for transmission to his local board in his home town.

"This man must have been an absent-minded registrant as well, as the sequel will show. He calmly placed the registration card in an envelope, addressed the envelope to his local board, put on the stamp, and walked out into the street.

As he passed a trash box he dropped the letter into the opening and went his way with a clear conscience of having done his first duty under the man power law.

Luckily for him, a postman coming out of the building saw the mistake he made and rescued the letter from the trash. By this time the registrant had boarded a car, so the letter carrier dropped the letter containing the precious card into the letter box.—Washington Star.

Birdmen's Patron Saint.
The cardinal archbishop of Westminster, who has initiated the Guild of St. Michael for Airmen, invites all Roman Catholic airmen to place themselves under the protection of St. Michael by joining the guild. No one could desire a slaughter champion, remarks a London paper, but the choice of the Russian airman, who in the early days of the war decided on Elijah as their patron saint, is perhaps even more plausible. It is, at all events, plain that these days have given an entirely new meaning to the phrase, "prince of the powers of the air."

Every Sensation.
The following is from a letter written by a member of the United States tank forces in France: "I ran the gamut of all sensations from fear to hatred, and the latter was what I carried away. Any nation that fills the bodies of the dead with bombs in order to kill the claps that come out to bury them, has no consideration from me, and that is what the Germans do, among other things."

Fire Clay Substitute.
The great resistance to heat of ordinary coal ash has suggested the use of this material for fire bricks in place of fire clay. It is claimed that a suitable binder has been provided in a new process, and several thousand experimental bricks already made are being tested, both as a fireproof building material and as a furnace lining.

Liberty Before All Things.
Blasphemy will not fascinate us, nor will threats of a halter intimidate us; for, under God, we are determined that, whatsoever whatsoever or howsoever we shall be called to make our exit, we will die free men.—Joshua Quincy.

EFFECTS OF FEAR

Astoria Paper Sees Cause of Contagion.

The Astoria Budget of recent date made the following theory in regard to contagion the substance of editorial comment:

In this day of enlightenment it is more than passing strange that a little seems to be understood regarding the laws governing contagion. The handling of the present epidemic would be little short of criminal were it not that it must be laid to the door of ignorance.

To treat human beings as so much inert matter regardless of the human mind does not speak well for modern enlightenment.

Even our great grandmothers were wise enough to avoid the minute descriptions of disease before susceptible minds recognizing the tendency of people to "catch things" from suggestion. If any are prone to doubt that disease is impressed upon people through suggestion and fear, a simple experiment may suffice to show how quickly the majority yield to a mental suggestion. Go into a crowd and start an exaggerated yawn and observe how immediately one after another struggles to suppress the tendency to follow suit. So much for suggestion. Now ask any one of the better class of physicians just what effect fear has upon the body. What it does to the heart, the secretions of the stomach and bowels, and how the temperature rises through fear's effects. Then realize how great a part fear and suggestion together must play in the spreading of such an epidemic as the present one and we must admit that a higher degree of intelligence might have governed its handling. As a matter of fact everything that could inflame the fear of the public has been done; everything that could spread the mental picture of symptoms has been thrown broadcast, till everyone who has been attacked by even a simple cold has had it inflamed by fear and has suffered from the results of fear in rising temperature, which in turn is fed by the mental picture carried. Certain it is that no human emotion controls the minds of people more than fear, and it is time that efforts upon the body were taken into consideration.

Origins of Military Titles.
Commodore and commander are forms borrowed and adapted from the Spanish commander, a knight, a commander, or the superior of a monastery. The French have the word *commandeur*, the Italian *comandante*, *Comandante*, however, meaning the officer of a fortified town's garrison, etc., comes from the medieval Latin *comandator*, a commander, and *comandare*, to command.

Historic Island.
Blennerhassett's Island is a small island in the Ohio river about two miles below Parkersburg, W. Va., which figures in history. It gets its name from having been once owned by Hiram Blennerhassett, a wealthy Englishman, who built a fine residence on it. While living there he became financially involved in Aaron Burr's visionary and treasonable schemes, and they proved his ruin.

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Japanese Conjugal Etiquette.
When American people judge the degree of affection between a Japanese husband and wife by their conduct to each other they make a great mistake. It would be as had form for a man to express approval of his wife or children as it would be for him to praise any other part of himself, and every wife takes a pride in conducting herself according to the rigid rules of etiquette, which recognize dignity and humility as the virtues that reflect greatest glory on the home of which she is mistress.

Plants Travel by Air.
In Porto Rico, where the atmosphere is moist and balmy, air plants often lodge in the most unusual places and produce some weird effects while growing. Frequently they establish themselves on telephone and telegraph wires. The insulation rots in places and the plants take root, grow and thrive.

NURSES MUST REGISTER.
The Nurse Survey Committee of the Red Cross asks that all women experienced in nursing respond at once to the War Department's call. Women who are not now following the profession are requested to at once enroll. Voluntary enlistment will save time, for all nurses are required to register, by order of the government. Please call Main 73 or Black 22, and get in touch with proper parties for registration. 10-11-18, pd

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